

YOUTH SOCCER RULES AND REGULATIONS

2004

THE LEAGUES:

*The eligibility age for all participants shall be a minimum of 6 years of age and a maximum of 18 years of age. The age cut-off date to establish the age of the child is **OCTOBER 1st** of the current year. Roanoke County will honor an alternate cut-off date established by other sanctioning organizations if that date does not expand the age brackets or increase the age eligibility established by Roanoke County Parks and Recreation.*

A. Instructional Leagues - These teams will be administered by the Recreation Clubs. There will not be any standings or scores kept in any of these divisions. Scheduling and rescheduling will be accomplished by the Recreation Clubs.

U-7 – Open to youth 6 years of age as of July 31. ***Age exception – Any child enrolled in a Roanoke County Public School who turns 6 years of age between age 6 between August 1 and September 30. Due to the County rule that all participants must play within their age bracket, these children will play in this age bracket for two years.*

U-8 – Open to youth 7 years of age as of July 31.

U-10 – Open to youth 8 and 9 years of age as of July 31.

B. Recreation Leagues - These teams will be administered by the Roanoke County Recreation Parks, Recreation & Tourism Athletic Section. Scheduling and rescheduling will be accomplished by the Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Athletic Section.

U-12 - Open to all youth 10 through 11 years of age. The Club must have the parent's permission for a 9-year-old child to play up from the U-10 division.

U-14 – Open to all youth 12 through 13 years of age.

U-16 – Open to all youth 14 through 15 years of age.

U-19 – Open to all youth 16 through 18 years of age. ***The youth that is 18 years of age must attend a Roanoke County School.*

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. Players must be a Roanoke County resident or attend a Roanoke County Public School to be eligible to participate in any Roanoke County Youth Athletic program. If a player moves out of the County, they may continue to participate in the County program until they age out of the program, as long as their participation is continuous in that specific sport with no breaks between the age brackets.

B. All players must play in their eligible age bracket.

TEAM INFORMATION

A. Team entry forms and roster forms must be filed with the Youth Athletic Department by 5:00 PM Friday, **July 23 2004.**

B. Team Rosters must be filed with the Athletic Department, **Friday, July 23, 2004.** Rosters must show name, address, telephone number, birthday (before August 1) league age, jersey numbers (if available) and the school each player attends.

C. Roster must be signed by the head coach verifying the roster information.

D. Rosters should have (as close as possible) equaled number of older and younger players per age bracket. There shall be no drafting of all same age teams.

E. Teams ages 10 and up must have at least 14 players should have no more than 16 players on the roster. Any deviation from these numbers must have approval of the Recreation Department. **Exception would be the U-19 teams where a maximum of 20 players would be allowed.*

MINIMUM PRACTICE STANDARDS

A. Practice will begin August 1st.

B. BEFORE SEASON STARTS: Two (2) sessions per week, at one and one-half hours per session.

- C. AFTER SEASON STARTS: One (1) session per week, at one and one-half hours per session and at least one (1) game.

LEAGUE RULES

Games will be played according to the USYSA (United States Youth Soccer Association) rules except for the provisions listed below.

- A. League play will begin **Saturday, August 28, 2004.**
- B. Uniforms - Uniforms must include matching jerseys with a number on the back, matching shorts and matching socks. Sweat pants may be worn if the matching shorts are worn over the sweat pants.
- C. Equipment - Shin guards **MUST** be worn for all practices and games.
- D. Divisions U-12 - #4 ball. Divisions U-19, U-16 and U-14 - #5 ball
- E. Coach must give a line up card with players' names and numbers to the game official before the game starts.
- F. Teams will be given five (5) minutes after scheduled game time to produce a sufficient number of players to begin a game.
- G. Teams may start the game with seven (7) players. If additional players show up, they may be inserted in the game on a whistle and must wait for the officials signal to enter.
- H. Length of games:
 - U-12 Division - Four (4) ten (10) minute quarters
 - U-14 Division - Four (4) twelve (12) minute quarters
 - U-16 and U-19 Divisions - Two (2) twenty-five (25) minute halves
- I. There will be two-minute rest period between quarters and a five-minute rest period between halves for U-12 and U-14 divisions. A five-minute half will be given to teams playing in the U-16 and U-19 divisions.
- J. **Each player who attends half (1/2) of the scheduled practices (unless with valid excuse) must play three quarters (3/4) of that game. The only exception will be in case of injuries. The minimum playing time will be enforced through team coaches and parents. Penalty – First Offense: Forfeiture of game and coach suspended for the next game (1 game). Second Offense; Forfeiture of game and coach suspended for the year. All suspension will roll over into the next season.**
- K. Substitutions: A coach can only substitute players between quarters. A hurt or yellow-carded player can be replaced at any time. A yellow-carded player must sit out " the remainder of the quarter. If a player is injured, the coach has the option to leave the player in the game or substitute for him/her. If the injured player is substituted that substitute must play the remainder of the quarter. Time must be out before any substitution can be made. Exception: U-16 and U-19 divisions will substitute according to the USYSA rule book.
- L. One complete half will be an official game.
- M. Standings will be based upon a point system: Two (2) points for a win; One (1) for a tie; No points for a loss. Should two teams finish the season with the same number of points the team with the most wins takes the position. If points and wins are the same; who defeated whom during regular season play will take the position- Total number of goals for or against will not be used as a factor. Standings are kept for next year's draft only. No playoffs or awards will be given by Roanoke County Parks Recreation & Tourism. **For league standing, schedules, cancellations and make up times log on to myteam.com.**
- N. No player is allowed to participate in more than one (1) Roanoke County sponsored sport within the same season.
- O. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and spectators around field.
- P. The RVSOA Assignor will assign officials.

SOCCER COORDINATOR:

The soccer coordinator acts on the authority granted by the Board of Directors of the Recreation Clubs. They will enforce the aforementioned rules for the equitable distribution of players to maintain a balance in number of players on the teams in various leagues.

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